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Title: OPERATIONS AND MAINTENANCE ARCHITECTURE FOR MULTIPROTOCOL DISTRIBUTED SYSTEM

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~~given community to share wireless equipment such as remotely located antenna sites, regardless of their specific requirements for radio frequency (RF) air interface signal protocols and/or management messaging formats. The present invention~~ The present disclosure is directed to an open access Network Management System (NMS) that provides multiple tenants in an open access wireless distribution system with an appropriate level of access and control over the system elements that carry their signaling. For example, in addition to forwarding messages from tenant-controlled NMSs to the open access system elements, the open access NMS preferably acts as a caching firewall to ensure that the tenant NMS are permitted privileges to access only those system elements to which they are a properly assigned. A database function included with the open access NMS may be used to build and maintain a database of operations and maintenance information from autonomously initiated poll and status functions. This then permits queries from tenant NMSs to be answered without the need to duplicate open system network traffic.

Please amend page 12, second complete paragraph, of the specification as follows:

The location of the RANs will be selected to typically support radio link reliability of at least 90% area, 75% at cell edge, as a minimum, for low antenna centerline heights in a microcellular architecture. The radio link budgets, associated with each proposed tenant, will be a function of the selected air protocol and the RAN 50 spacing design will need to balance these parameters, to guarantee a level of coverage reliability. For more details concerning link budget allocation, refer to our co-pending U.S. patent application Ser. No. [...] 09/ 818,986 filed Mar. 27, 2001 and assigned to Transcept OpenCell, Inc., the same assignee as the present invention.